

**Office of the Auditor General**  
Report on Internal Control, Compliance, and Other Matters

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**Michigan State Employees' Retirement System**

Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2020

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The auditor general shall conduct post audits of financial transactions and accounts of the state and of all branches, departments, offices, boards, commissions, agencies, authorities and institutions of the state established by this constitution or by law, and performance post audits thereof.

The auditor general may make investigations pertinent to the conduct of audits.

*Article IV, Section 53 of the Michigan Constitution*

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Office of the Auditor General

## Report Summary

*Report on Internal Control, Compliance, and  
Other Matters  
Michigan State Employees' Retirement  
System  
Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2020*

**Report Number:  
071-0151-21**

**Released:  
March 2021**

Generally accepted government auditing standards require an auditor to report on internal control over financial reporting; compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements that have a material effect on the financial statements; and other matters coming to the attention of the auditor during the completion of a financial audit. We are issuing this report in conjunction with our independent auditor's report on the Michigan State Employees' Retirement System's financial statements dated January 27, 2021.

<b>Findings Related to Internal Control, Compliance, and Other Matters</b>	<b>Material Weakness</b>	<b>Significant Deficiency</b>	<b>Agency Preliminary Response</b>
None reported.			Not applicable.

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**Doug A. Ringler, CPA, CIA**  
Auditor General

**Laura J. Hirst, CPA**  
Deputy Auditor General



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**Doug A. Ringler, CPA, CIA**  
Auditor General

## Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters

Colonel John J. Wojcik, Chair  
State of Michigan Retirement Board  
Stevens T. Mason Building  
and  
Mr. Brom Stibitz, Director  
Department of Technology, Management, and Budget  
Elliott-Larsen Building  
and  
Mr. Anthony J. Estell, Director  
Office of Retirement Services  
Stevens T. Mason Building  
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Colonel Wojcik, Mr. Stibitz, and Mr. Estell:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Michigan State Employees' Retirement System as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020 and the related notes to the basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 27, 2021.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements, we considered the System's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the System's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the System's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's basic financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the System's basic financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of This Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Sincerely,



Doug Ringler  
Auditor General  
January 27, 2021







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